



The Russell Family Foundation

Environmental Education and Food for Climate Solutions Grant Committee Overview, Duties, and Expectations

About The Russell Family Foundation

The Russell Family Foundation (TRFF) is a multi-generational family foundation that seeks to invest in people and places to advance environmental sustainability and address the climate crisis. TRFF has a vision for a thriving, equitable, and sustainable Earth.

Our Values

- Putting **relationships** at the center of our work
- Prioritizing **equity, justice, and belonging** in all that we do
- Caring for the **natural world**
- Being **courageous** and taking risks while **continually learning**
- Building **trust** through **transparency** and **integrity**

Program Areas

- Catalytic Climate Finance
- Environmental Education
- Food for Climate Solutions
- Jane's Fellowship Program

Overview

The Environmental Education and Food for Climate Solutions Grant Committee of The Russell Family Foundation provides oversight of the Foundation's grant-making affairs within the Environmental Education and Food for Climate Solutions program areas, including recommending program direction, assessing grant applications, and ensuring the Foundation fulfills its mission and goals while ensuring the grantmaking activities of the foundation complies with all rules and regulations.

The primary responsibilities of the Environmental Education and Food for Climate Solutions Grant Committee are:

- Works with other foundation members to ensure the Environmental Education and Food for Climate Solutions grant-making strategies effectively achieve the foundation's long-term objectives.
- Evaluate the merits of the Environmental Education and Food for Climate Solutions grant requests by reviewing proposals, organizational backgrounds, budgets, and potential impact. Ensure alignment with the foundation's focus areas and strategic

goals.

- Contribute to developing and refining the Environmental Education and Food for Climate Solutions grant-making policies, procedures, and criteria.
- Recommends resources for special initiatives and reports.
- Actively participate in committee meetings to discuss and make decisions regarding grant applications. Prepare well in advance of meetings to discuss applicant strengths, weaknesses, and funding recommendations.
- Monitor and evaluate the performance and impact of funded projects, analyzing the outcomes and lessons learned to inform future grant-making.
- Assist in the oversight of the grants budget and ensure adherence to allocated funding levels.
- Participate in professional development opportunities to remain current with philanthropic trends and best practices.

Time Commitment and Compensation:

- Participate in the Environmental Education and Food for Climate Solutions Grant Committee meetings quarterly (typically 2-2.5 hours each) along with optional grantee site visits in conjunction with TRFF Board meetings. Preparation for these meetings includes up to one hour of pre-reading.
- Environmental Education and Food for Climate Solutions Grant Committee members may occasionally be invited to participate in specific Foundation meetings or other strategic initiatives.
- Environmental Education and Food for Climate Solutions Grant Committee members may be asked to represent the Foundation in the field through speaking engagements and conference participation.
- Length of term is three years and may be renewed twice.
- Foundation-related business expenses are reimbursed. Independent committee members will receive an allocation to recommend up to \$5,000 in grants that fall within the Foundation's guidelines or \$5,000 in direct compensation as desired by the committee member.

Environmental Education and Food for Climate Solutions Grant Committee Member Profile:

The Environmental Education Grant Committee members will ideally possess many of the following characteristics:

- Passion for TRFF's mission and familiarity and support for TRFF's programmatic and grantmaking objectives; experience working within or in partnership with the nonprofit sector is a plus.
- Intellectually curious, able to offer probing questions, and comfortable examining alternate points of view in a respectful, collaborative, and rigorous way.
- Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.

The Russell Family Foundation is deeply committed to diversity, equity, access, and inclusion. The Foundation values and welcomes candidates from a wide range of personal and professional backgrounds, including community-based organizations, policy organizations, government, national nonprofit organizations, or the private sector.